



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/616,316	07/09/2003	Takayuki Ohta	04610.016001	1882

7590 01/08/2007
Jonathan P. Osha
Rosenthal & Osha L.L.P.
Suite 2800
1221 McKinney St.
Houston, TX 77010

EXAMINER

HOFFMAN, BRANDON S

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2136

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	01/08/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/616,316	Applicant(s) OHTA ET AL.	
	Examiner Brandon S. Hoffman	Art Unit 2136	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 7/9/03
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 09 July 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>7-9-03</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Information Disclosure Statement

2. The information disclosure statement filed July 9, 2003, fails to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97, 1.98 and MPEP § 609 because the three Japanese references are in Japanese, and a description of why they are relevant is not provided. It has been placed in the application file, but the information referred to therein has not been considered as to the merits. Applicant is advised that the date of any re-submission of any item of information contained in this information disclosure statement or the submission of any missing element(s) will be the date of submission for purposes of determining compliance with the requirements based on the time of filing the statement, including all certification requirements for statements under 37 CFR 1.97(e). See MPEP § 609.05(a). The other three references, which are Japanese patent abstracts, have been considered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

Art Unit: 2136

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Moats (U.S. Patent Pub. No. 2004/0088378).

Regarding claim 1, Moats teaches an input/output control method in a system for controlling input/output of network office equipment comprising a plurality of computers and a network office equipment to constitute a network (fig. 1), the method comprising:

- Displaying a list of output objects stored in the network office equipment to allow selection of an output object from the list when an output demand is given to the network office equipment (paragraph 0048 and fig. 2A, ref. num 405-415).

Regarding claims 2 and 6, Moats teaches the method further comprising:

- When the output object is selected from the list, judging whether or not the selected output object requires an authentication process (paragraph 0049);
- Performing the authentication process when it is judged that the selected output object requires the authentication process (paragraph 0052 and fig. 2C); and
- Outputting only the selected output object for which the authentication process is normally finished (paragraph 0052).

Regarding claims 3, 13, and 19, Moats teaches wherein said network office equipment performs individual display of the output object in the list specified by the operation section in the form conforming to a demand inputted from the operation section (page 5, paragraph 0049).

Regarding claims 4, 8, 14, and 20, Moats teaches wherein, when a delete demand is inputted from the operation section in the individual display, said network office equipment deletes data of the output object designated as the object of the individual display, which is stored in said network office equipment (paragraph 0051 and fig. 2B, ref. num 450).

Regarding claim 5, Moats teaches a computer program product for controlling input/output of network office equipment executed in a network office equipment in a system for controlling input/output of network office equipment, the system comprising a plurality of computers and a network office equipment to form a network (fig. 1), and the computer program product comprising:

- Program code means for executing an output demand acceptance step of accepting an output demand to the network office equipment (paragraph 0048);
- Program code means for executing a list display step of displaying a list of output objects stored in the network office equipment when the output demand is accepted (fig. 2A, ref. num 405-415);

Art Unit: 2136

- Program code means for executing an output object specifying step of specifying an output object for which the output demand is given (paragraph 0049 and fig. 2A, Private Job or Non Private Job); and
- Program code means for executing an output step of outputting the output object specified in said output object specifying step (page 5, paragraph 0049).

Regarding claim 7, Moats teaches further comprising:

- Program code means for executing an individual display demand judging step of judging whether or not an individual display demand exists for any one of the output objects displayed in the list (fig. 3); and
- Program code means for executing an individual display step of performing the individual display when it is judged in said individual demand judging step that the individual display demand exists (page 5, paragraph 0049).

Regarding claims 9 and 15, Moats teaches a system/network office equipment for controlling input/output of network office equipment, the system comprising a plurality of computers and a network office equipment to form a network (fig. 1),

- Wherein said network office equipment enables a list of output objects stored in said network office equipment to be displayed when receiving an output demand (paragraph 0048 and fig. 2A, ref. num 405-415), and

- Wherein, when an output object is specified, said network office equipment judges whether or not the output object requires an authentication process (paragraph 0049 and fig. 2A, Private Job or Non Private Job), and
- Allows the output object that is judged to require the authentication process to be outputted only when the authentication process is normally made (paragraph 0052 and fig. 2C).

Regarding claims 10 and 16, Moats teaches wherein said network office equipment, when receiving an output demand from said computer, transmits to said personal computer the list of the output objects stored in said network office equipment (fig. 3).

Regarding claims 11 and 17, Moats teaches wherein said network office equipment outputs to said computer data for display regarding the output object in the list specified by said computer so as to enable individual display of the specified output object in said computer in a form conforming to a demand from said computer (page 5, paragraph 0049).

Regarding claims 12 and 18, Moats teaches wherein, when an output demand is inputted from an operation section, said network office equipment displays the list of the output objects stored in said network office equipment (fig. 3).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Brandon S. Hoffman whose telephone number is 571-272-3863. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30 - 5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nasser G. Moazzami can be reached on 571-272-4195. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Brat 9/1

BH

NASSER MOAZZAMI
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100

CM
114107